



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 03327.2259-00

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Akihiro HIKICHI et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1771
	)	
Application No.: 09/901,722	)	Examiner: N.L. Torres-Velazquez
	)	
Filed: July 11, 2001	)	Confirmation No.: 7732
	)	
For: NON-ASBESTOS FRICTION MATERIAL	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This Reply is filed in response to the Final Office Action mailed July 7, 2005, and pursuant to a Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, the period for response having been extended by a request for extension of three (3) month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith. Please reexamine and reconsider the application in view of the amendments and remarks as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper and begin one page 2.

**Arguments/Remarks** follow the amendment sections of this paper.